



Charlotte Mason's House of Education,
Scale How, Ambleside, UK, 2009

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necessarily made to the wider public; and I trust may not be in vain. Professor Takakusu has obtained the privilege that every 1000 volumes, thus collected, shall be conveyed by a Japanese firm of merchants, from London to Tokyo, freight free; and all parcels of books sent *carriage paid* to my house, addressed to

The Secretary, Dulce Cor Library,
15, Hanover Terrace, Regent's Park, London,
will be gratefully received and acknowledged.

Believe me, Sir, obediently yours,

E. A. GORDON.

Member of the Japan Society, Author of "Temples of the Orient and their Message," etc., etc.

To the Editor, *Parents' Review*,
Oct. 26th, 1905.

OUR WORK.

House of Education.

Term begins on Saturday, January 13th, 1906.

Intending students should apply at once for a form of entry.

Parents' Review School.

The examination papers will be sent out for Monday, December 11th.

Mothers' Educational Course.

The examination papers will be sent out for Monday, December 4th. Will members who would like to postpone their examination kindly communicate at once with the Secretary.

** Register of Schools, some classes of which work in the Parents' Review School and are tested by the P.R.S. Examiner:—*

Principal.	School.	Girls or Boys.	Classes Working in P.R.S.
MISS AITCHISON	Abbeyfield House, Sheffield	Girls	After Easter.
MISS ALLEN and MISS PARISH	Spange House, Ewhurst, Guildford	Girls	
MISS AMBLER	Risca, Reigate	Girls Ia., Ib., II. & III.	
MISS BECK	Fridhem, Heacham, King's Lynn	Girls Ia., Ib. and III.	
MISS BIRTWHISTLE	3, Onslow Place, S.W.	Preparatory	
MRS. CLAYE	The Vicarage, Brigg	Boys Ia., Ib. and II.	
MISS COOKE	"Romanoff," Surbiton	Girls I., II., III., IV.	
MISS CRAMPTON	Frenchay Lodge, nr. Bristol	Girls II. and III.	
W. STORRS FOX, ESQ.	St. Anselm's, Bakewell	Boys II. and III.	
MISS GAYFORD	S. Cuthbert's, Twickenham	Girls and small boys Ia. and II.	
C. H. GIBBS, ESQ.	37, Sloane Street, London, S.W.	Boys (preparatory) Ib. and II.	
MISS FIELD HALL	High Cliff School, Scarborough	Girls II.	
MRS. LAMB	Rijswijk, Epsom	Girls and boys Ia. and II.	
MISS LEVICK	Edgehill, Peak Hill, Sydenham, S.E.	Girls Ia., Ib., II. & III.	
MISS NESBIT	S. Hilda's Prep. School, Purley	Girls and boys Ia., Ib. & II.	
MISS K. H. NODDALL	Moorlands, Bovey Tracey, Devon	Girls Ia., Ib. and III.	
J. W. E. PEARCE, ESQ.	Merton Court School, Sidcup	Boys Ib. and II.	
MISS RICHARDSON	Lindum House, Bexhill-on-Sea	Girls II. and III.	

* The Committee take no responsibility with regard to these schools except as far as the above statement goes; due inquiries should be made by parents. Prospectuses can be had on application to the Office.

Principal.	School.	Girls or Boys.	Classes Working in P.R.S.
MISS SWAIN	Frith Park School, Sheffield	Girls	Ia., Ib., II. & III.
J. O. M. THOMAS, ESQ.	14, Chilworth Street, Westbourne Terrace, W.	Boys	Ia., Ib., II. & III.
H. G. UNDERHILL, ESQ.	Wootton Court, Wootton, near Canterbury	Boys (preparatory)	Ia., Ib., II. and III.
MISS WATSON	Alstone Court, Cheltenham	Girls	Ia., Ib. and II.
MISS WHITE	Glencairn, Chippenham	Girls and boys	Ia., Ib. & II.

P.N.E.U. Literary Society.—Subject for December: Browning's *On a Balcony*.

P.N.E.U. Translation Society.—Subject for December: *Grèce, Rome and Dante*, par Ampère.

C. AGNES ROOPER, Hon. Sec.,

Pen Selwood, Gervis Road, Bournemouth.

From whom all particulars may be obtained.

BOOKS.

Northern Trails: Some Studies of Animals in the Far North, by William J. Long (Ginn & Co., 7/6). We welcome with delight another of Mr. Long's books. He opens a new world to us, and a world which is, we venture to think, closed to all but poet souls. The naturalist must first of all go and see, and Mr. Long goes into all the strange cold places under the moon, and he sees wolf and bear with the intimacy which no one can acquire with another but by staying with him in his own house. That is what the author does. He is as absolutely intimate with the makers of the trails; but this is not enough. You may live with a man for ever and not understand him, and you may spend half your life in going after bears and not understand them; that is why we say Mr. Long has the poet soul. He knows how to put himself on the level of these which we call "lower" lives; to see as they see, think and feel in their narrow range and rejoice in their natural joys. Therefore, we get delightful reading. All sincere biographies are delightful, not less so when they are the tales of the lives of creatures between whom and ourselves there is a mystic veil. The thumb-nail sketches which adorn most of the pages are fascinating, and so too are Mr. Copland's full-page illustrations. We must allow the author to speak for himself, as to the veracity of the tales he tells:—"The reader who has not followed such trails before will ask at once, How many of these things are true? Every smallest incident recorded here is as true as careful and accurate observation can make it. . . . I make no claim whatever, that animals reason or think or feel as men and women do. I have watched them too long for that; and sitting beside the beavers' villages in the still twilight of the wilderness I find enough to occupy eyes and mind without making any comparison with the unquiet cities of men far away."

The Red Book of Romance, edited by Andrew Lang (Longmans, 6/-). No, for once, we do not agree with Mr. Andrew Lang. He tells us in his preface of a boy who grew pale and sad because he read in a great book called *Polexander*, and had been told that he ought to read it from beginning to end. And the moral is, that because the old romances are dreadfully long, the alternative is to find a book which contains all the romances told short. We read all about the Werwolf, and the Cid, and Una and the Lion, and Amys and Amyle, and Don Quixote, and Havlok and Goldborough, and many more, all delightfully told by Mrs. Lang, and all with delightful pictures by Mr. Ford. Could we have more than this? And yet there is something the matter with us. Are we suffering from repletion? Is it a little like having all the festive dinners of the year on the table at once? Our own notion is, that both children and grown-ups should come on each of these old romances in a place by itself; each should be a sudden surprise, a letting down of the window which looks out on the realm of chivalry; and there should be a long, long pause between each and the next, time to live over and dream over the tale we have read. Still we defer in all things to Mr. Andrew Lang. He may be right and we wrong; but of this we are quite certain: there will be no pause between in the reading of the tales. Each is so delightful that the next will be read at a rush.

Three Little Cooks, by Lucy Crump (Arnold, 2/6). A nice well-written little story of how three children saved up their money and bought a cooking-stove and cooked many pleasant things.

Stories from the History of Rome, by Mrs. Beesly (Macmillan, 1/6). We are glad to receive a new issue of Mrs. Beesly's capital *Stories*. We know nothing to take its place as an introduction to Roman History.

The Guide to Fairy Land, by Dion Clayton Calthorp (Alston Rivers, 7/6). Mr. Clayton Calthorp has hit upon a delightful idea, and has carried it out in a truly delightful way. Fairy-land is a country, and it would be foolish to travel in an unknown country without a guide, and here we are introduced to all the features of Fairy-land, the king's garden, a dusty road, the hut under the hill, the dim forest, the giant's castle, and of course, we travel with a prince and meet the real princess and the dwarf, the suitors, the fairy godmother and all the *dramatis personæ* who have their parts on the stage of Fairy-land; and all is told in that more real than real way which belongs to Fairy-land. Indeed, the author tells his tale with a verisimilitude which reminds the reader of one Mr. Gulliver, who also went upon travels. As for the pictures—Mr. Calthorp's own—why they just fit the tale. Could anything, outside of a willow-pattern plate, be more suggestive than the *Homes of the Hillmen*? For the most part we prefer old fairy-tales, but we willingly admit the *Guide to Fairy-land* to our fairy-shelf. We congratulate the children who get this amongst their Christmas gifts.

The Told to the Children Series, edited by L. Chisholm (T. C. Jack, 1/- or 1/6 each). Here we have a baker's dozen of really charming stories for children, edited by Miss Louie Chisholm. The whole thirteen books are displayed in a pretty red box, the type is very pleasing, and the eight coloured pictures, which every volume holds, are by such artists as Byam Shaw, F. D. Bedford, Catherine Cameron, and W. Heath Robinson. The editor's idea is that every now and then there is a tiresome hiatus in reading aloud to children, while the reader looks on to see how much he must miss, and probably we all remember the slight resentment we felt ourselves during those pauses. We object very much to the watering down, or cutting down of literary works for children who can read for themselves; but these

volumes are meant for the little children who cannot read, to whom stories are told.

(1) *Stories of Robin Hood*, by H. E. Marshall, are very vigorous.

(2) *Stories of King Arthur's Knights*, by Mary MacGregor. These stories are drawn from Malory, and the writer has had the grace to stick to her text. We have "Lancelot and Elaine," "Sir Galahad and the Sacred Cup," "The Death of King Arthur," "Gareth and Lynette." We think the stories savour more of Tennyson than of Malory, but they are very good reading.

(3) *Stories from Chaucer*, by Janet Harvey Kelman. The pictures in this volume, by W. Heath Robinson, are particularly good, so too are the tales. The loves of Palamon and Arcite, the sorrowful tale of the patient Griselda, the noble adventures of Constance, are duly set forth, and offer the sort of big thoughts that children love to feed upon.

(4) *Stories from The Faerie Queene*, by Jeanie Lang. Here we have St. George and the Dragon, Una and Fidessa, of Pastorelle and Marinell and Florimell; in fact, eight beautiful stories, well-told, but somehow missing the proper fairy-tale atmosphere. This sort of commonplace for children does not quite do:—"The shepherd was very angry, but all the sea-folk had to obey Neptune, so he sulkily opened the prison door and let Florimell go free."

(5) *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, abridged by H. E. Marshall. Probably only the best of our classics lend themselves to this sort of treatment. *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, delightful as it is in its own proper form, is a little second-rate in this format.

(6) *The Pilgrim's Progress*, abridged by M. MacGregor. This is not quite the *Pilgrim's Progress*, but the *Pilgrim's Progress* "told to the children." Who may tamper with the diction of Bunyan, without reducing it to commonplace?

(7) *Robinson Crusoe*, abridged by John Lang. *Robinson Crusoe* is very well told but who, again, can tell a tale after Defoe? "Now, Robinson thought it time to find a better place for his tent," is not the sort of thing we have grown up upon. In fact it is hard to touch a classic without, by the mere touch, reducing matchless writing to commonplace.

(8) *Stories from the Old Testament* selected by Edward Chisholm. This is a delightful little book, very fit to be put into the hands of children; the stories are selected and not retold, and we all know that selection is necessary, and that omissions are indispensable, when we deal with Old Testament narratives. The stories are of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, and the beautiful Bible language is none the less attractive upon the pages of a child's book.

(9) *The Heroes*, abridged by Mary MacGregor. The stories are of Perseus, the Argonauts and Theseus, and are very charmingly told by Miss MacGregor. How delightful the stories in themselves are, of how Perseus slew the Gorgon, how Jason lost his sandal, how Theseus lifted the stone, and the rest, we need say no word. These stories are a world possession, and Miss MacGregor has the right to tell them her own way. She does not often give us this sort of thing, but need she have done so as all? "'She is too fair, at least to have done any wrong. I will speak to her,' and, lifting the magic hat from his head, he flashed into her sight. She shrieked with terror, but Perseus cried, 'Do not fear me, fair one. What cruel men have bound you? But first I will set you free.'"

(10) *The Water Babies*, abridged by Amy Steedman. Miss Amy Steedman has told the tale of the *Water Babies* very well, keeping some of the spirit and charm of the original, and bringing it within the range of the nursery

mind without falling into twaddle. It is a tale for little children, but not exactly as Kingsley tells it.

(11) *Stories from the Life of Christ*, selected by J. H. Kelman. What we have said of the *Stories from the Old Testament*, applies exactly to these *Stories from the Life of Christ*. We like the pictures; they are vivid and is "hearing them," and not teaching them as we so often have the scene represented.

(12) *Stories from Shakespeare*, by J. Lang. There is much to be said of this quite nursery version of stories from Shakespeare. So soon as children can read easily, let them read Shakespeare, but that Miranda and Ariel, Rosalind and Orlando, Portia and Jessica, Catherine and Petruchio, Titania and Oberon, should be familiar personages, and household words, for the whole of a child's conscious life, is distinctly good; and Miss Jeanie Lang has told the tale with spirit and simplicity. The pictures are capital.

(13) *Nursery Rhymes*, selected by L. Chisholm. We think this will be the favourite of these nursery books. Never, never will the children weary of the delightful jargon of these nursery rhymes, and as for the pictures, why they are worthy of the rhymes! The three wise men of Gotham is quite delightful. Each of these volumes can be bought separately (price 1/6).

The Little Black Princess: A True Tale of the Never-Never Land, by Jeannie Gunn (De la More Press, 5/-). Tales out of the Never-Never Land must needs be delightful. The land itself is a part of Queensland, that we know so little of, that is so full of mystery and into which the natives disappear, as into a veritable fairyland. We have had no picaninny so entertaining as Bett-Bett, since Topsy first delighted us, and by the time we have made her acquaintance, we are tolerably intimate with the Bushmen of Australia, their ways and their notions. Miss Jeannie Gunn has told this "true tale," just as it ought to be told. The photographs of the groups of natives are very interesting.

The Stoat Pack, by G. G. Desmond (Alston Rivers, 5/-). Children will enjoy Mr. Desmond's book about beasts all the more because it is written from the animals' point of view. Several of the chapters, but by no means all, are concerned with the Stoat Pack. The tragedies of the field are sorrowful enough and as the author opines may cause tears, but anyway it is a book to promote intimacy with the field-dwellers, and that is a thing that children covet. Here is an example; "What a dear little thing!" she cried. "It is as soft as velvet, even softer, I think! On the top it is brown, and under is as soft as velvet—and what a dear long nose it has!"—"Ah," said man, neath it is white—and what a dear long nose it has!"—"Ah," said man, her father, "That is a shrew. He tried to cross the path and he died. They can't pass a road or a path without dying." "Why not, father?" "The hard earth kills them, they have that tender feet," said man. "But why do they want to pass the path, father?" said the little girl, with tears in her voice. "Ah, that I can't tell'ee," said man.

Fairy Tales every Child Know, edited by H. W. Mabie (Heinemann, 5/-). This is a capital book of Fairy Tales including *The Enchanted Stag*, *The Story of Aladdin*, *The History of Ali Baba*, *The White Cat*, *The Golden Goose*, *The Sleeping Beauty in the Wood*, and George Macdonald's delightful story of *The Light Princess*, not to mention many others, and the tales are told as fairy tales should be, with a certain seriousness and dignity and no attempt at a reading-made-easy style. We think, however, that children will be disappointed at the paucity of illustrations.

Fairy Tales Old and New (Cassell, 3/6). These are stories from the old fairy tales from Grimm and Anderson, and stories of King Arthur, with twenty coloured plates of a sort that children will dream over. The picture of the Little Match Girl is charming. These stories are easier reading than those in the volume we have noticed above.

The Lay of the Wee Brown Wren, a Tale for Little Ones, by H. W. Shephard-Walwyn (Longmans, 2/6). An entertaining story rhythmically told of how a wee brown wren fell in love with a snowy-white hen, and all the glad and bad things that happened to the two. The pictures are quite delightful, being taken from photographs by the author.

The Zoo: A Scamper, by Walter Emanuel (Alston Rivers, 2/6). We do not think that Mr. Walter Emanuel has done anything for the nursery in this scamper through the Zoo. Smart hits and cynical wit are not to the nursery mind; and this sort of cheap joke should miss fire:—"And we took off our hats to the memory of Sally, most civilised of all Chimpanzees. She could even pick pockets."

The Golliwog's Fox-hunt, by F. K. & B. Upton (Longmans, 6/-). The Golliwog is as up-to-date as *Punch* itself. Meg and Weg and Midget are as absurdly entertaining as usual, both in picture and rhyme and the Golliwog as preposterous. The fox-hunt of course is great fun, and the pictures in which the ladies, mounted and in appropriate riding habits, accompany the Golliwog on the great hunt are inimitable. We, as usual, must congratulate Miss Florence Upton.

The Plain Princess, by Irene Maunder (Longmans, 4/6). We, of course, like Andrew Lang's preface. If he does not know what a good fairy tale is, we should like to know who does? And he likes these tales by Irene Maunder; so do we. She knows how to tell a fairy tale. She knows that it must be told with quite extraordinary seriousness, with good big grown-up words, and with a great many nice little notable circumstances. We wonder, would Mr. Lang agree that these are some of the secrets that go to the telling of a fairy-tale. We believe children will enjoy these tales and the pictures too; but surely those are the Golliwogs we meet on the last page!

Ourselfes, by Charlotte M. Mason (*Home Education Series*, Vol. IV., Kegan Paul, 3/6). The second edition will be ready shortly, in time for Christmas Gifts.

We have received from Messrs. Cassell & Co. :—

(a) *Tiny Tales* (1/-), *Merry Homes* (1/-), *Tiny Tots* (1/4), *Bo-Peep* (2/6). All full of pictures, tales and verse. *Tiny Tales* is especially pretty.

(b) *The Little Folks Book of Heroes* (3/6), if it were only for the hero of Trafalgar, and Florence Nightingale, and the heroes of Themopylæ, and Livingstone, this book with its capital pictures would be dear to warm-hearted boys and girls everywhere, but think of it! It is a book of sixty or seventy heroes, all of them good reading.

(c) *Little Folks Annual* (two vols., 3/6 each). Here are two complete serial stories, articles on little folks of royal houses, recitations, and no end of poems, songs and pictures. Children delight in *Little Folks*.

(d) *The Little Folks Sunday Book*, by S. H. Harmer (5/-). The Bible stories are always beautiful and delightful to children and are very well told here, though we find that the Bible stories read to them in the Bible words please them better than anything else. Many of the illustrations are really beautiful, but it is unfortunate that they should not all face the page on which the story is told. Some of them, as that of the woman anointing the feet of Jesus, are a little French in style and not quite pleasant. This is true also of the children brought to Jesus.

Longman's Class Books of English Literature. *Tales of King Arthur and the Round Table* (1/- net); *Marmion* (1/6); *The Talisman* (1/4); *The Lay of the Last Minstrel* (1/-); *Paradise Lost*, Book I.; *Paradise Lost*, Book II.; *The Lady of the Lake* (1/6); *The Lays of Ancient Rome* (1/-). Messrs. Longman's Class Books of English Literature have the recommendation of an open page and capital type, and the introductory biographies are for the most part not only informal, but sympathetic. We should like to cut out the notes, holding that it is better for a young reader to want to know than to know. An 'abridgement' of the *Talisman* is, to our mind, iniquitous; and so too is the announcement concerning the *Morte d'Arthur*, that "the language throughout has been modified with a view to making the legends more easy of study."

THE "P.R." LETTER BAG.

[The Editor is not responsible for the opinions of Correspondents.]

DEAR EDITOR,—I purpose publishing in book-form a series of papers on Children, including those which have already appeared in the *Parents' Review*. The publisher to whom I have submitted them is willing to undertake the publication provided I can guarantee the sale of 350 copies at 3s. 6d. I should be glad if those members of the P.N.E.U. or subscribers to the *Parents' Review* who would be willing to take a copy or copies would be so good as to send their name and address to me, stating how many copies they would care to have.

EDITH ESCOMBE (Miss).

Shawford, near Winchester.

P.S.—I wish to thank those readers who have already kindly responded to my letter by sending me their names and addresses.